



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information Is In Blue Text

Event Name	20-0003 COVID-19 2020
Date	February 8, 2021
Time	0900
Operational Period	February 7, 2021 to February 8, 2021
Report Number	326

Region	
Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
DDCs Active	DDCs 1, 2, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9A, 9B, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16A, 16B, 16C, 16D, 17, 18A, 18B, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24 & Capitol

Current Situation: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is currently reporting a total of 2,160,098 cases of COVID-19 in the State of Texas which includes an estimated 336,361 active cases. 2,091,113 individuals have recovered from the virus and 38,643 confirmed COVID-19 related fatalities. Across Texas, a total of 18,072,290 COVID-19 molecular tests have been completed.

DSHS is also reporting, Texas has received and distributed a total of 4,036,800 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, which has been administered to 3,202,062 people in 254 Texas Counties.

Visit the DSHS COVID-19 Vaccine Information website:
<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx>

Visit the Testing Sites Map online for testing locations near you.
<https://www.covidtest.tdem.texas.gov/>

View the Governor's Executive Orders issued:
<https://lrl.texas.gov/legLeaders/governors/displayDocs.cfm?govdoctypeID=5&governorID=45>

The Governor's Report to Open Texas.
<https://open.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>

Texas Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information Page. <https://www.texas.gov/covid19/>

The Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas and a list of guidelines, openings, and relevant dates. <https://open.texas.gov/>

Texas Health and Human Services Family Violence Program.
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/family-violence-program>

Texas Health and Human Services Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-information-texans/pandemic-ebt-p-ebt-due-covid-19>

Texas Health and Human Services Mental Health and Substance Use Resources.
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-substance-use-resources>

One Star Foundation, Texas COVID Relief Fund.
<http://onestarfoundation.org/txcovidfund/>

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Help for Texans.
<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm>

Essential Services. <https://tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices/>

Help essential workers in Texas locate child care and support child care centers.
<https://frontlinechildcare.texas.gov/>

Special WIC Food Updates. <https://texaswic.org/about-wic/special-wic-food-updates>

Comfort Food Care Packages (CFCP). <https://www.txrestaurant.org/news/comfort-food-care-packages-feed-youth-and-families-need-and-stay-open>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. <https://www.cms.gov/>

Texas Health and Human Services. <https://hhs.texas.gov/>

Texans in need can apply for benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid.
<https://www.YourTexasBenefits.com>

To apply for unemployment benefits or to request payment
<https://www.twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/unemployment-benefits-services>

On February 4, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), in partnership with the Texas Military Department (TMD), is deploying State Mobile Vaccination Teams (SMVT) to five additional counties this week: Motley, Glasscock, Kenedy, Terrell, and McMullen. SMVTs previously deployed to

DeWitt, Marion, Real, Sherman, and Starr counties last week as part of the State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program.

On February 4, Governor Abbott announced the extension of the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration.

On February 2, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will provide approximately \$300 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of February.

On January 28, Governor Abbott and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) launched an online application for the Supplementary Special Education Services (SSES) program, which allows eligible families of children with significant cognitive disabilities and complex educational needs to apply for a \$1,500 online account to be used in the SSES marketplace.

On January 27, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has deployed 80 military medical personnel to assist in the COVID-19 response in Abilene, Lufkin, and Eagle Pass.

On January 27, Governor Abbott and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) announced the creation of the State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program to ramp up COVID-19 vaccination efforts in underserved areas of Texas.

On January 25, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), in partnership with the City of Lubbock, Lubbock County, Covenant Health System, and UMC Health System, has established an Alternate Care Site in Lubbock to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On January 25, Governor Abbott also announced that TDEM has expanded the COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Austin. With added support provided by TDEM, including 24 additional infusion chairs, staff, and medical equipment, the infusion center will be able to increase capacity to treat a greater number of COVID-19 patients each day.

On January 22, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced the expansion of the COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses by dedicating 1 million BinaxNow Rapid Tests to the program.

On January 22, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel, equipment, testing supplies, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to Laredo to help combat COVID-19 and support hospitals in the region.

On January 19, Governor Abbott held a roundtable discussion alongside healthcare professionals at Houston Methodist Hospital to highlight his legislative priorities to ensure a healthier future for the state of Texas.

On January 14, Governor Abbott and DSHS announced that that State of Texas has administered more than 1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine—making Texas the national leader in vaccinations.

On January 12, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with Travis County, the City of Austin, and the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council, has established an Alternate Care Site in Austin to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On January 11, 2021, Governor Abbott held a press conference in Arlington where he provided an update on Texas' COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts.

On January 9, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established two new COVID-19 therapeutic infusion centers in Fort Worth and Irving.

On January 8, 2021, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced their Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan initiative will reopen for certain new and existing borrowers. Governor Abbott announced that the TDEM has launched a therapeutic infusion center in Laredo to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On January 4, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Austin to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On December 30, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM secured an extension of four Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS) in Houston and Harris County through January 31, 2021 or until the sites reach maximum capacity of conducting 50,000 COVID-19 tests.

On December 28, Governor Abbott and DSHS are alerting nursing facilities to the availability of monoclonal antibody therapies that can be used to treat residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

On December 22, Governor Abbott received the COVID-19 vaccine at Ascension-Seton Medical Center in Austin.

On December 18, Governor Abbott held a call with hospital CEOs and representatives across Texas to discuss the importance of COVID-19 therapeutic antibody treatments in the state's fight against COVID-19.

On December 17, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Harlingen to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On December 14, Governor Abbott visited the White House where he attended a briefing on Operation Warp Speed with Vice President Mike Pence and other state and federal leaders.

On December 11, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will participate in the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, a federal program to vaccinate residents and staff of long-term care facilities against COVID-19.

On December 7, Governor Abbott and TDEM launched a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses

On December 3, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$204 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of December as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On December 2, Governor Abbott announced that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has made an initial allotment of over 1.4 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccines to the State of Texas for the month of December.

On November 24, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a bamlanivimab infusion wing at the state-run alternate care site (ACS) in El Paso to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On November 23, Governor Abbott and DSHS announced the guiding principles for Texas' COVID-19 vaccine allocation process, which will serve as a foundation for the state's initial distribution for COVID-19 vaccines expected as early as next month.

Texas will initially allocate COVID-19 vaccines based on the following criteria:

- Protecting health care workers who fill a critical role in caring for and preserving the lives of COVID-19 patients and maintaining the health care infrastructure for all who need it.
- Protecting frontline workers who are at greater risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of their work providing critical services and preserving the economy.
- Protecting vulnerable populations who are at greater risk of severe disease and death if they contract COVID-19.
- Mitigating health inequities due to factors such as demographics, poverty, insurance status and geography.
- Data-driven allocations using the best available scientific evidence and epidemiology at the time, allowing for flexibility for local conditions.
- Geographic diversity through a balanced approach that considers access in urban and rural communities and in affected ZIP codes.
- Transparency through sharing allocations with the public and seeking public feedback.

On November 19, Governor Abbott traveled to Lubbock to hold a briefing with local officials and provide an update on the distribution of bamlanivimab, the Eli Lilly & Company monoclonal antibody therapy for COVID-19.

On November 18, Governor Abbot announced a \$420 million reimbursement program

to cover costs incurred by Texas public schools that purchased Wi-Fi hotspots and/or eLearning devices (such as laptops, tablets, and Chromebooks) so students could learn remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On November 11, Governor Abbott deployed additional resources to El Paso and Lubbock to help combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On November 10, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas has prepared allocation plans to swiftly distribute medicines and vaccines that are now becoming available to treat COVID-19.

On November 6, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has deployed three U.S. Air Force Medical Specialty Teams to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19 in El Paso. Governor Abbott also renewed the statewide disaster declaration for COVID-19.

On November 5, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$202 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of November as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 26, as part of the Trump Administration's comprehensive national effort to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and to assist the nation's Governors in doing so, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is sending 8,730,000 state-of-the-art Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 point of care antigen tests to the State of Texas.

On October 25, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is establishing an alternate care site (ACS) in El Paso to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On October 24, Governor Abbott held a call with Dr. Robert Kadlec, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), to discuss hospital capacity needs in the City of El Paso.

On October 22, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM are surging additional medical personnel and equipment to the El Paso region to assist with the community's COVID-19 response.

On October 16, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel, medical supplies, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Panhandle and South Plains areas to support hospitals in their COVID-19 response.

On October 15, TDEM updated the criteria for a county exemption from the Texas Executive Order GA-29 face-covering requirement. TDEM has promulgated the following criteria for a county exemption from the face-covering requirement of GA-29:

- The county must have 30 or fewer new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14-day

period.

- The county judge of a county with 30 or fewer new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14-day period must submit an exemption form affirmatively opting out.
- If a county exceeds 30 new COVID-19 cases during a 14 day period, the county judge will be notified via email by TDEM, the county name will be removed from this website, and the county will be required to comply with all aspects of GA-29. After a 14 day waiting period, if the county has fewer than 30 new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14 day period, the county judge will be eligible to reapply for exemption. Visit <https://tdem.texas.gov/ga29/> for more details.

On October 14, Governor Abbott, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), and TDEM announced the creation of a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for Texas school systems.

On October 12, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel and PPE to El Paso to help combat COVID-19 and support hospitals in the region.

On October 9, Governor Abbott announced the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will receive more than \$20 million in additional federal funding for disaster crisis counseling services for Texans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 8, Governor Abbott amended the paragraph of Executive Order GA-31 that defines areas with high hospitalizations.

On October 7, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order to open bars and similar establishments at up to 50% capacity in conjunction with county officials. The Governor's Executive Order also increases the occupancy levels for all business establishments other than bars to 75%. Governor Abbott renewed the State Disaster Declaration for COVID-19.

On October 2, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.5 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to purchase plexiglass barriers and tents to allow for safe visitation during the COVID- 19 pandemic.

On September 30, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is partnering with the State of Texas and local officials to offer temporary COVID-19 surge testing in McLennan County. HHS has allocated 40,000 COVID-19 tests for this effort. Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$196 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of October as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On September 25, Governor Abbott announced that Texas' major health insurers have agreed to continue reimbursing network health care providers for telehealth

appointments at the same rate which they pay for office visits through the end of 2020. Also, Governor Abbott announced the allocation of over \$171 million in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which will primarily be used for targeted rental assistance for Texans at risk of becoming homeless due to eviction.

On September 17, Governor Abbot issued Executive Orders expanding occupancy levels at 75% for restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms and exercise facilities and classes, museums, and libraries, and re-authorizing elective surgeries for a majority of the state of Texas beginning September 21. Three of the 22 TSAs (S-Victoria, T-Laredo, and V-Lower Rio Grande Valley) must remain at 50% occupancy and continue postponing elective surgeries until the hospitalization metric requirements are met.

On September 7, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation extending his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 31, Governor Abbott announced the Texas HHSC will provide approximately \$188 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of September as Texas continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 21, Governor Abbott issued a statement after the federal government approved nearly \$1.4 billion in initial funds made available through President Trump's Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order.

On August 20, Governor Abbott announced that TEA, in partnership with Local Education Agencies, has procured more than 1 million personal devices and internet WiFi hotspots as part of the State's Operation Connectivity Initiative.

On August 13, Governor Abbott traveled to El Paso to meet with state representatives and local leaders to discuss the community's response to COVID-19.

On August 12, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has extended operations for four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County.

On August 11, Governor Abbott traveled to Beaumont and Victoria to hold a briefing with local officials and state representatives on the ongoing COVID-19 response in Jefferson County.

On August 8, Governor Abbott extended his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 7, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has established four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites. For hours of operation and registration details, visit www.doineedacovid19test.com.

On August 6, Governor Abbott announced that the Houston Astros and TDEM have teamed up to open a free COVID-19 testing site at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The testing site will be able to process 2,000 tests per day and began operations on Saturday, August 8. Testing will run from 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM seven days per week. To book an appointment and learn more, visit [Texas.curativeinc.com](https://www.texas.curativeinc.com).

On August 4, Governor Abbott visited the McAllen Convention Center for the opening of the temporary health care facility which will help increase the Rio Grande Valley's hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Abbott also announced that President Trump has extended federal funding for the Texas National Guard's mission to help combat COVID-19 in communities across the state.

On July 31, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with Mayors, County Judges, Emergency Managers, Hospital Executives, State Legislators, and other local officials from the cities of Laredo and Eagle Pass to discuss ongoing efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

On July 24, Governor Abbott and the Texas Military Department (TMD) announced Joint Task Force Texas, a newly formed partnership between the Texas National Guard and Active Duty and Reservists to strengthen COVID-19 response efforts in Texas. Texas Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Thomas Suelzer, appointed as the dual-status commander, serves as the commander of both Texas National Guard and federal service members.

On July 23, The Office Of The Governor and Guadalupe Zamora, MD, of Zamora Medical Center released a new English-Spanish language public service announcement (PSA) urging communities to work together to protect vulnerable Texans from COVID-19.

On July 22, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will allocate an additional \$118 million in federal funding to support higher education in Texas, including \$93 million to help students continue or restart their progress toward earning a post-secondary credential or degree.

On July 21, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with mayors, county judges, emergency managers, hospital executives, state legislators, and other local officials from Cameron and Hidalgo Counties to discuss the unified efforts to combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On July 19, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has sent five U.S. Navy teams to four locations in South and Southwest Texas to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

On July 17, Governor Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Patrick, House Speaker Bonnen, Senate Finance Committee Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Hinojosa, and House Appropriations Committee Chair Capriglione and Vice Chair Longoria announced

that the State of Texas will allocate \$200 million in CARES Act funding to the TEA for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity.

On July 15, Governor Abbott announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide \$41 million in federal funds to assist cities and counties throughout the COVID-19 response.

On July 13, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has activated additional U.S. Army Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces (UAMTF) to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19.

On July 10, Governor Abbott extended the COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation to further mitigate the spread of the virus. He also announced that Omnicare, a CVS Health company, is partnering with the State of Texas to provide COVID-19 point of care testing for assisted living facilities and nursing homes throughout the state

On July 9, Governor Abbott issued a Proclamation suspending elective surgeries in hospitals in all counties located within 11 Trauma Service Areas (TSAs) in Texas.

On July 8, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will invest \$57 million in federal funds to maintain the state's need-based financial aid programs and keep more students enrolled at their colleges and universities.

On July 4, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing 448 cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 157 hospitals across Texas.

On July 2, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases, with few exceptions. The Governor also issued a proclamation giving mayors and county judges the ability to impose restrictions on some outdoor gatherings of over ten people, and making it mandatory that, with certain exceptions, people cannot be in groups larger than ten and must maintain six feet of social distancing from others. Governor Abbott and HHSC announced that \$2.67 billion in federal funding has been approved to support Texas hospitals that provide care for people receiving Medicaid.

On June 30, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$9 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to implement infection control. Also, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending elective surgeries at hospitals in Cameron, Hidalgo, Nueces, and Webb counties to help ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients in these communities.

On June 26, Governor Abbott issued an executive order limiting certain businesses and services as part of the state's effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. Governor Abbott also announced that the federal government has granted his request to extend operations of Community Based Testing Sites across Texas.

On June 25, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission enacted new emergency rules related to health and safety standards for child day care operations. Governor Abbott also issued an Executive Order to ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients as Texas faces an increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

On June 24, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with the Texas Military Department (TMD), will begin distributing 3-ply surgical masks to every Texan who undergoes COVID-19 testing at state-run mobile test collection sites.

On June 23, As COVID-19 cases rise in Texas, Governor Abbott has expanded the ability of mayors and county judges to impose restrictions on outdoor gatherings of over 100 people.

On June 16, Governor Abbott and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs of the University of Texas (UT) System John Zerwas, MD, provided an update on Texas' hospital capacity

On June 11, Governor Abbott extended the Disaster Declaration for all counties in the State of Texas amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

On June 9, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing additional cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 85 hospitals across 34 counties in Texas.

On June 8, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is coordinating with local officials, public health officials, and emergency management offices in cities across the state to identify and rapidly expand COVID-19 testing in underserved and minority communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

On June 3, Governor Abbott announced the third phase of the State of Texas' plan to safely open the economy while containing the spread of COVID-19. Under Phase III, effective immediately, all businesses in Texas will be able to operate at up to 50% capacity, with very limited exceptions.

On May 27, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.6 million in funding for nursing facilities to purchase tablets, webcams, and headphones to connect residents with their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 21, Governor Greg Abbott directed HHSC to expand COVID-19 testing to all patients, residents, and staff at the 23 state-operated inpatient psychiatric hospitals and living centers throughout Texas.

On May 15, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced that local fire departments in Texas are partnering with local public health authorities to provide testing in nursing homes throughout the state.

On May 14, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard has activated Facilities Disinfection Teams to support Texans in nursing homes and to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

On May 13, Governor Abbott waived license renewal late fees that accrued between March 13 and June 15, 2020 for occupational licenses issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

On May 12, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide more than \$1 billion in food benefits through the federal Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program to families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or discounted school meals due to COVID-19-related school closures.

On May 11, Governor Abbott directed HHSC, TDEM, and DSHS to test 100% of residents and staff in Texas nursing homes.

On May 8, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Category B (Emergency Protective Measures) assistance funding to provide financial support to Texas' network of food banks.

On May 6, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received \$5.8 million in federal funding to provide crisis counseling services to Texans who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On April 30, Governor Abbott announced that TWC has issued new guidance to unemployment claimants concerning their eligibility for unemployment benefits should they choose not to return to work at this time due to COVID-19.

On April 27, Governor Abbott announced the first phase of the State of Texas' ongoing plan to safely and strategically open Texas while minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

On April 23, Governor Abbott announced that Texas A&M Service will provide a series of free online trainings to help local officials understand, acquire, and administer federal assistance available to the state of Texas and municipalities through the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and recently passed CARES Act. Governor Abbott also announced that HHSC will receive nearly \$54 million in federal funds to support older Texans and people with disabilities during the COVID-19

response.

On April 22, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain restrictions to allow Texas higher education institutions to transfer all unexpended student financial aid funds from the Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) program to other financial aid programs that do not have a work- study requirement to ensure students will continue receiving financial assistance.

On April 20, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard will be mobilizing more than 1,200 personnel as part of COVID-19 mobile testing teams (MTT). With reports of elevated scams and fraudulent activity preying on the public and consumers disguised as COVID-19 relief and assistance, local, state and federal response includes guidance, investigation, and prosecution.

- Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus>
- Federal Bureau of Investigation: <https://www.fbi.gov/coronavirus>
- Texas Attorney General: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov>
- US Attorney's Office: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/report-covid-19-fraud>
- Federal Communications Commission: <https://www.fcc.gov/covid-scams>

On April 9, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has adopted an emergency rule to temporarily allow more nurse aides to serve residents in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 response.

On April 8, Governor Abbott suspended certain statutes concerning appearance before a notary public to execute a self-proved will, a durable power of attorney, a medical power of attorney, a directive to physician, or an oath of an executor, administrator, or guardian. Governor Abbott also announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide a one- time emergency waiver of the federally required cash or in-kind match contribution required for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant funds. Also, Governor Abbott announced that Texas HHSC will provide more than \$168 million in emergency SNAP food benefits to help Texans during the COVID-19 response.

On April 6, HHSC, Texas WIC, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, is expanding the number of food items eligible for purchase through the program.

On April 5, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain regulations to expand the health care workforce to assist with Texas' COVID-19 response.

On April 3, Governor Abbott held a press conference to provide an update on Texas hospital capacity. Texas has increased by over 140% since March 18.

On April 1, Governor Abbott and TDHCA took initial action to provide tenant-based rental assistance for Texans experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

On March 31, Governor Abbott announced the Comfort Food Care Package (CFCP) program to provide meals for at-risk youth and families in communities across Texas as the state responds to COVID-19.

On March 28, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations allowing for an expedited licensing reactivation process for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) in Texas. The Governor also waived certain licensing renewal regulations for Texas pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy technician trainees.

On March 27, Governor Abbott announced the deployment of three National Guard Joint Task Force Brigades. The 72nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 56th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and the 176th Engineer Brigade also Governor Abbott waived certain Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) regulations to preserve and extend child care capacity for front line workers.

On March 25, Governor Abbott released a statement thanking President Trump for issuing a Major Disaster Declaration (DR-4485) for the State of Texas.

On March 23, Governor Abbott sent a letter to President Trump requesting a presidential declaration of a major disaster in Texas based on the continued impact of COVID-19. Chief Nim Kidd has been designated the Governor's Authorized Representative and State Coordinating Officer, tasked with continuing his coordination with FEMA on all matters related to COVID-19.

On March 20, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) warned consumers about unauthorized fraudulent coronavirus tests. Governor Abbott also announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has included the entire state of Texas in its Economic Injury Disaster Declaration and granted access to its Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program.

On March 19, the Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services, Dr. John Hellerstedt, issued a Public Health Disaster Declaration in Texas. Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending provisions of the Texas Election Code to allow political subdivisions to postpone their 2020 local elections. Governor Abbott and TEA announced a collaboration with Local Education Agencies (LEA) on the Texas Students Meal Finder Map which will allow Texas parents to locate LEA facilities serving meals in their communities.

On March 17, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations and directed that the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) issue an emergency rule, relating to telemedicine care for patients with state-regulated insurance plans.

On March 14, Governor Abbott, directed the Texas Medical Board (TMB) and the Texas Board of Nursing (TBN) to fast-track the temporary licensing of out-of-state physicians, physician assistants, certain retired physicians, nurses, and other license types to assist in Texas' response to COVID-19.

On March 13, the President of the United States Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 global pandemic is a national emergency. On the same day, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat in the state and declared a state of disaster for all 254 counties in Texas. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Commissioner Sid Miller announced TDA has been granted flexibility from the federal school meal program to allow Texas schools to continue to provide meals to students even if temporarily closed.

Texas COVID-19 Cases, February 7, 2021

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Anderson	4,765	Donley	158	Kaufman	11,853	Real	268
Andrews	1,672	Duval	1,042	Kendall	1,463	Red River	374
Angelina	4,467	Eastland	839	Kenedy	16	Reeves	977
Aransas	807	Ector	7,661	Kent	35	Refugio	536
Archer	661	Edwards	196	Kerr	2,039	Roberts	50
Armstrong	101	El Paso	116,644	Kimble	198	Robertson	1,532
Atascosa	3,741	Ellis	17,008	King	7	Rockwall	8,173
Austin	1,433	Erath	2,619	Kinney	322	Runnels	753
Bailey	562	Falls	1,812	Kleberg	1,736	Rusk	1,991
Bandera	861	Fannin	2,409	Knox	170	Sabine	167
Bastrop	6,259	Fayette	1,332	La Salle	619	San Augustine	324
Baylor	116	Fisher	290	Lamar	2,461	San Jacinto	628
Bee	2,926	Floyd	289	Lamb	1,455	San Patricio	2,954
Bell	19,602	Foard	80	Lampasas	1,590	San Saba	547
Bexar	152,736	Fort Bend	46,474	Lavaca	1,803	Schleicher	117
Blanco	546	Franklin	449	Lee	868	Scurry	2,441
Borden	11	Freestone	1,153	Leon	1,164	Shackelford	122
Bosque	1,249	Frio	1,988	Liberty	4,978	Shelby	836
Bowie	4,318	Gaines	1,394	Limestone	1,941	Sherman	110
Brazoria	25,788	Galveston	27,803	Lipscomb	262	Smith	10,304
Brazos	16,073	Garza	198	Live Oak	835	Somervell	560
Brewster	784	Gillespie	1,590	Llano	985	Starr	7,073
Briscoe	69	Glasscock	35	Loving	1	Stephens	416
Brooks	629	Goliad	265	Lubbock	47,418	Sterling	45
Brown	1,824	Gonzales	2,190	Lynn	602	Stonewall	48
Burleson	1,731	Gray	1,610	Madison	1,626	Sutton	259
Burnet	3,532	Grayson	10,112	Marion	317	Swisher	381

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Caldwell	4,681	Gregg	5,528	Martin	341	Tarrant	194,962
Calhoun	1,493	Grimes	2,951	Mason	211	Taylor	6,810
Callahan	567	Guadalupe	9,520	Matagorda	2,582	Terrell	67
Cameron	35,736	Hale	5,934	Maverick	9,691	Terry	1,652
Camp	761	Hall	305	McCulloch	369	Throckmorton	49
Carson	212	Hamilton	671	McLennan	23,575	Titus	2,557
Cass	1,075	Hansford	343	McMullen	59	Tom Green	4,512
Castro	610	Hardeman	292	Medina	2,874	Travis	71,623
Chambers	3,884	Hardin	2,259	Menard	140	Trinity	435
Cherokee	2,182	Harris	327,079	Midland	15,687	Tyler	495
Childress	1,297	Harrison	2,223	Milam	1,236	Upshur	1,211
Clay	896	Hartley	353	Mills	536	Upton	69
Cochran	212	Haskell	193	Mitchell	570	Uvalde	3,206
Coke	211	Hays	15,378	Montague	1,632	Val Verde	7,396
Coleman	468	Hemphill	491	Montgomery	34,335	Van Zandt	2,276
Collin	65,423	Henderson	3,474	Moore	1,888	Victoria	7,572
Collingsworth	181	Hidalgo	45,979	Morris	526	Walker	7,300
Colorado	1,228	Hill	3,520	Motley	34	Waller	2,823
Comal	4,422	Hockley	1,924	Nacogdoches	2,991	Ward	627
Comanche	984	Hood	3,913	Navarro	3,332	Washington	2,870
Concho	148	Hopkins	1,425	Newton	269	Webb	41,361
Cooke	2,910	Houston	826	Nolan	1,474	Wharton	3,136
Coryell	6,815	Howard	2,937	Nueces	25,013	Wheeler	413
Cottle	136	Hudspeth	401	Ochiltree	909	Wichita	14,175
Crane	203	Hunt	5,162	Oldham	97	Wilbarger	1,518
Crockett	215	Hutchinson	964	Orange	3,569	Willacy	2,096
Crosby	279	Irion	43	Palo Pinto	2,302	Williamson	33,322
Culberson	313	Jack	513	Panola	891	Wilson	2,891
Dallam	508	Jackson	1,395	Parker	11,163	Winkler	516
Dallas	234,210	Jasper	870	Parmer	817	Wise	5,521
Dawson	1,686	Jeff Davis	113	Pecos	1,144	Wood	1,750
DeWitt	1,774	Jefferson	17,556	Polk	1,324	Yoakum	852
Deaf Smith	1,892	Jim Hogg	547	Potter	16,608	Young	1,778
Delta	155	Jim Wells	3,319	Presidio	597	Zapata	1,430
Denton	44,221	Johnson	15,193	Rains	357	Zavala	1,487
Dickens	93	Jones	2,046	Randall	15,911	Total	2,160,098
Dimmit	1,207	Karnes	1,512	Reagan	193		

DSHS will update the state case count each day by 4:00 PM Central Time.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Protect vulnerable populations.

3. Support rapid & effective response.
4. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
5. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.
6. Expand and maximize bed capacity.
7. Develop alternative care sites to support local governments and the health care systems.
8. Acquire supplies/equipment to support health care and testing.
9. Ensure visibility on progression of the disease.
10. Support local governments

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS:

Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas State Operations Center remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff processing disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as severe weather messages, and preparing Snapshots and the state SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners and various members of the public health community to assist with unmet needs and resources.

Statewide Testing Underway:

- TDEM will have 76 active community-based collection sites on February 5
- TDEM has 59 sites scheduled for February 6
- Total Tests collected February 4 – 13,288
- TMD/EMTF Total Collection to date: 509,057
- Total Nursing Home tests collected to date: 105,641
- Private vendor testing Total collection to date: 1,801,385
- Private and Military 2,310,442 w/out TDJC

QRF functions with private vendor engagement underway. As of 16 November, 56 missions. 2 STARs open.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): [Pony Express Team members made the following deliveries/retrievals yesterday:](#)

- [400 Vaccines delivered to Public Health Departments or Medical facilities](#)

[The Austin DAR Agent delivered 200 doses of Moderna vaccine to Magnolia Pharmacy on February 6. DAR Agents from Midland and Corpus Christi picked up 100 doses each and the TMD Vaccination Teams from airports to transport them to Pilot Vaccination sites at Sanderson and Sarita, Texas on February 6, 2021. They assisted TDEM and local jurisdictions with management of the sites, then transported TMD and data loggers back to airports to DPS Air for their return to Austin.](#)

One DAR Agent is assigned to assist TEEX with Binax testing of legislative officials and guests at the 3rd Floor Conference Room testing site at the State Capitol from January 15 until the end of the legislative session.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): TEEX continues to coordinate operations from the SOC and the 8 IST Resource Staging Areas (RSA) throughout Texas in 11 distribution locations. TEEX currently has 39 personnel deployed to support ongoing response activities throughout the state. RELLIS Campus operating in support of TDEM equipment reconstitution efforts.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): TFS currently has 3 personnel assigned to support the ongoing COVID-19 Response activities. Resources are providing logistical support to the TDEM at warehouses and at the SOC.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): The TAHC supports assessing Texas animals for COVID-19 testing and tracks testing results: to date, 45 animals in Texas have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. TAHC has conducted 55 Animal Assessments.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage.
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/covid-19/tceq-preparedness-responsibilities-covid-19>

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR):

- TDLR continues to update their website's COVID-19 page (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/covid19.htm>) with the latest developments affecting their licensees and the public.
- A searchable database of all emergency licenses is now available here: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/emergency-licenses.htm>
- TDLR will not issue printed emergency licenses, and licensees are not required to post or display proof of an emergency license. Anyone needing verification or authorization of an emergency license should be directed to this webpage: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/emergency-licenses.htm>
- All TDLR licensees with a renewable license that expired between August 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021 will be considered to hold an emergency license valid for up to 120 days after their expiration date.
- TDLR previously adopted an emergency rule granting the emergency licenses on November 23. The original extension involved licenses that expired between August 1 and November 30, 2020. This additional extension was approved by TDLR Executive Director Brian E. Francis.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS Call Center Activities: The Call Center has received 40,669 calls and 35,910 emails to date. The Call Center continues to operate Monday-Friday from 8:00AM -6:00PM and Saturday-Sunday from 8:00AM – 5:00PM.

- Providing Vaccinator support to Amarillo (20 personnel) and Laredo (8 personnel) State Supported Vaccine Clinics.
- DSHS continues to work with HHSC to distribute live-saving monoclonal antibody therapies to Nursing Facilities to treat residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- The SMOC is working alongside TDEM and the DSHS Immunizations Unit to monitor, track and report on vaccine operations

Texas Education Agency (TEA): To view TEA support and guidance for school districts regarding COVID-19 please visit <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/safe-and-healthy-schools/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>.

COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for Texas school systems update: (BinaxNOW School Testing Project)

Number of School Districts/Systems

- 845 school districts/systems have opted in
- 1,153 deliveries have been made to school districts/systems overall

Number of Tests*

- 1,712,326 tests have been requested
- 1,853,915 tests have already been distributed
- 59,320 tests have been returned due to opting out or not being able to use before expiration date

*Number distributed exceeds number requested due to delivery of full box quantities

Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): EMTF continues to support COVID-19 response in 8 EMTF Regions with 43 personnel across the state.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD currently has 990 personnel in support of the COVID-19 Response. TMD General Support Units are staged in Tyler, Dallas, Lubbock, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Corpus Christi, Weslaco, and Midland to implement the TDEM distribution plan to the RSAs/RACs. TMD is supporting DDC 8 El Paso with mortuary affairs. TMD is supporting a call center to support TDEM and are tracking 2,538 facilities. TMD is supporting food bank operations and have distributed 10,762,364 pounds of food. TMD has a 50 person Testing Team at the State Capitol Building, Camp Mabry/SMRC and Austin. TMD is providing Vaccination Teams in Harris County in support of the Governor's State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program. TMD has activated Healthcare Vaccine Support personnel to support TDEM and currently has a Vaccination Team in Camp Mabry/SMRC.

Texas Public Utilities Commission (PUC): PUC has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage. <http://www.puc.texas.gov/covid-19/>

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC):
Unemployment Insurance:

- Call centers are open 7 days a week 7:00 AM-7:00 PM.
- TWC Website, Information for COVID-19 [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- Expanded the number of people doing pin and password resets.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
AgriLife, TAMUS	Specialists/Admin	22		Activated	College Station
AgriLife, TAMUS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
AgriLife, TAMUS	DAR Extension Agents	18	18	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife, TAMUS	Incident Support Teams	16	16	Assigned	Regional Advisory Council Areas
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	7		Assigned	Austin
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	5		Assigned	Corpus Christi / Weslaco
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	1		Assigned	Dallas
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	6		Assigned	El Paso / Midland
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	11		Assigned	San Antonio
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	4		Assigned	Tyler
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	2		Assigned	Lubbock
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	1		Assigned	Houston
TEEX, TAMUS	SOC Liaisons	2		Assigned	Remote SOC/Austin
TFS, A&M	ESB/ESF 4 Representative	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TFS, A&M	Logistical Support	2		Assigned	San Antonio Warehouse

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
DPS-THP	Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
DSHS	Deployed Medical Staff	37		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	State Coordinating Office (SCO)	6		Assigned	SOC
DSHS	Angel Med Surge	3,679		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Maxim Med Surge	2,656		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	BCFS Med Surge	9,761		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Case Investigators	4		Assigned	PHR 6/5S Hardin Co.
DSHS	Infection Control Practitioner	10		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Epidemiologists	37		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Data Entry Spec	8		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Fatality Management Trailer (FMT) - HPP		15	Assigned	HPPs
DSHS	FMT - DSHS		2	Assigned	Hidalgo & Webb Counties
DSHS	FMT - FEMA		46	Assigned	Bexar, Cameron, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Hidalgo, Lubbock, Montgomery, Nueces, Randall, Smith, Starr, Travis Counties
HHSC	SOC Liaison	4		Assigned	SOC/Austin
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Virtual
TAHC	TAHC Staff	1		Assigned	Virtual
TDA	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TDLR	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TEA	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Remote
TMD	BDE Mission Command	0		Activated	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TMD	BN Mission Command – TF 136	11		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Testing Strike Team	6		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Contact Tracing	9		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RSA-HQ	6		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA ABIA	4		Assigned	Austin-Bergstrom Int'l Airport
TMD	RAC AUSTIN	8		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RSA Corpus	4		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	RAC Corpus	5		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	RSA-GSU Redbird	8		Assigned	Dallas (Redbird)
TMD	RSA El Paso	8		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	RAC El Paso	4		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	RSA-GSU Lubbock	4		Assigned	Lubbock
TMD	RSA-GSU Lufkin TDEM	2		Assigned	Lufkin
TMD	RSA-GSU Midland	4		Assigned	Midland
TMD	RSA-GSU SA TDEM SSA	14		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA San Antonio	10		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RAC San Antonio	6		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA/RAC-GSU Tyler	6		Assigned	Tyler
TMD	RAC Tyler	2		Assigned	Tyler
TMD	RSA GSU Weslaco	5		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	RAC Weslaco	7		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	RSA-GSU Westheimer	6		Assigned	Westheimer
TMD	RSA Standby	9		Assigned	Various
TMD	BN Mission CMD Call Center - BNMC	38		Assigned	Austin
TMD	GSU- Call Center	59		Assigned	Austin
TMD	GSU El Paso-Mortuary	39		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	GSU San Antonio Food Bank	67		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	GSU RGV Food Bank	34		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	GSU Coastal Bend Food Bank	15		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	GSU Tarrant County Food Bank	34		Assigned	Fort Worth
TMD	GSU South Texas Food	33		Assigned	Laredo

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
	Bank				
TMD	GSU Laredo Regional Food Bank	30		Activated	Laredo
TMD	GSU Montgomery County Food Bank	10		Assigned	Conroe
TMD	GSU- West Texas Food Bank	22		Assigned	Midland
TMD	GSU El Paso Food Bank	96		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	GSU North Texas Food Bank	34		Assigned	Plano
TMD	TF MEDICAL HQ	35		Assigned	Austin
TMD	VAC TEAM SUPPORT	26		Assigned	Austin
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (MVT #1)	54		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (MVT #2)	57		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (MVT #3)	43		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (MVT #4)	0		Activated	TBD
TMD	Capitol Testing Team	50		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Adaptive Battle Staff TF 136	46		Assigned	Austin
TMD	SOC Support Team	20		Assigned	Austin-SOC
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can also be found on the TDEM webpage at:
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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